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USIB-D-40.3/4
6 August 1962

UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

MEMORANDUM FOR THE UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

SUBJECT : Fourth Annual Report of the Committee on Procurement of Foreign Publications

1. The attached Fourth Annual Report of the Committee on Procurement of Foreign Publications, which has been disestablished by USIB action of 18 July 1962, is circulated for the information of the United States Intelligence Board.

2. It is not planned to place this memorandum on the agenda of a Board meeting unless the Secretariat is requested to do so prior to the close of business on 21 August 1962.

[redacted] 25X1

Executive Secretary

Attachment

Distribution: Regular "D" plus 65 copies to [redacted] IH 1114 Hqs. 25X1

No requests received to place on agenda

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USIB-D-40.3/4
1 August 1962

UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

COMMITTEE ON PROCUREMENT OF FOREIGN PUBLICATIONS

FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT

I. AUTHORITY

This report reflects the major activities of the Committee on Procurement of Foreign Publications for the period 1 July 1961-24 July 1962 as authorized and directed by DCID 2/5 dated 26 June 1959.

II. MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS

A. Resignation of Chairman. After 9 years of effective activity in procurement and related matters, [redacted] Chairman of PROCIB, resigned from CIA to enter private industry. The Committee unanimously adopted a resolution recording its gratitude to [redacted] for his dedicated leadership, and a suitably hand-lettered copy of the resolution was presented to him. 25X1 25X1

B. New Participants. The Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) became a full PROCIB member, and the Departments of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) and Commerce (OTS) became participating members. The full scope of DIA's role in this field has not yet evolved within its new organization.

C. The Publications Procurement Program. The operation of the entire Publications Procurement Program has been carefully reviewed during the past year. The work of the Regional Publications Procurement Officers has been good. In fact, the work of four of them has been commended by PROCIB

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during the period of this report. However, the production of the ad hoc PPOs is uneven; some produce effectively, while the production of others is insufficient. Virtually all of the ad hoc PPOs are overworked on their regular daily assignments, the PPO function being an added duty in which some of them have little interest, and to which they can give very little time. Few of them spend enough time visiting local bookstores, an absolute essential for effective performance. It would be helpful if this function were given higher priority.

Other serious problems in the Publications Procurement field are noted under Section III, Major Problems, below.

D. Reports on Individual Agency Procurement Programs. In line with the stated objectives of PROCIB, several member agency procurement programs were described and discussed. The most detailed presentation, that by the Army (cf. PROCIB-D-51), reported cooperation between Publications Procurement Officers and attaches in the field, reaffirmed the incompleteness of military publication procurement from the Sino-Soviet bloc, and among others, mentioned that a publications procurement coordinator is being established at USAREUR. The Air Force reported on its collection and abstracting program and its coordination with appropriate USIB Committees. One fact noted in these briefings was that greater coordination between the Publications Procurement Officers and all the Service Attaches would be desirable and should be sought at all posts. PROCIB was also briefed on the procurement activities of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, and the Office of Technical Services, Department of Commerce.

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Some examples of uncoordinated and competing procurement were noted and corrected during the year.

E. General Availability of Foreign Publications

1. USSR

The volume of books and monographs received from the PPOs in FY 1961, roughly 17,000 titles totalling 51,000 copies, has been maintained during FY 1962. The total number of Soviet newspaper and periodical titles received and processed increased from 1,300 to 1,600. Five important military periodicals listed as available for export, however, were denied for subscription by Soyuzpechat', the USSR press distribution agency. A "Want List" of 14 Soviet political, economic and technological journals was submitted to the Office of Technical Services, Department of Commerce, to be made available to certain U.S. business companies which maintain exchange agreements with technical organizations in the USSR for possible acquisition action. No results have yet been received from these sources. A "Want List" of critically needed USSR serial titles was also distributed to all USIB and certain non-USIB field collectors.

2. Communist China

The acquisition of books and monographs published in Communist China remains critically inadequate. Attempts are being made to acquire microfilm copies of books and monographs obtained by

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scholars who visit the mainland. One such effort is to acquire microfilm copies of Chinese Communist publications acquired

25X1 [redacted] chairman of the Oriental History Department of the University of Rangoon, who returned from a three-week visit to Communist China in early 1962.

The scientific and technical libraries in Stockholm, Helsinki and Copenhagen, under an exchange program called the Scandia Plan, have maintained a cooperative exchange of publications with the National Library of Peking and the Academia Sinica. Microfilm copies of Chinese Communist scientific and technical journals received by the Scandia participants are available to PROCIB members.

The Publications Procurement Officers at Hong Kong, Moscow, Tokyo and Berlin, in that order, continued to make effective contributions to the Chicom program. The British and Swedish Governments have provided effective support, and negotiations are in process with

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In March 1962, the American Embassy at The Hague reported that eight Chinese Communist newspapers and nine periodicals were again available for microfilming. Of these, two newspapers and

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two periodicals are unique items. In order to protect the source of Chicom publications acquired through covert channels, they are classified CONFIDENTIAL and restricted to USIB members of PROCIB.

The Publications Procurement Officer at London has reported that the Department of Science and Industrial Research in London, whose receipts of Chinese Communist publications were drastically reduced in 1959 and 1960, now receives some 20 periodical titles. Efforts are being made to obtain from this source those titles not available in Washington.

Several programs have been implemented to develop and maintain closer ties with the U.S. academic world. An effort is currently being made to provide support to the source needs of a major academic research program sponsored by the Joint Committee on Contemporary China of the American Council of Learned Societies and the Social Science Research Council.

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3. Cuba

Under the Fiscal Year 1961 agreement, member agencies continued to pool their resources on Cuban publications through the CIA Library. Where insufficient original copies of a given publication are obtained to satisfy community needs, CIA Library films the short-supply items and distributes copies to meet the demand. In Fiscal Year 1962, a total of 218,832 pages have been reproduced and distributed in this manner for USIB and non-USIB agencies at an approximate cost of $15,000. Meanwhile, Acquisitions Branch, CIA Library has been developing a direct approach to Cuban sources. This project was temporarily impeded by the March 1962 ban on US-Cuban postal money order exchanges. Alternative methods of payment have been established. CIA Library will inform member agencies on procedures and costs involved so that direct procurement may be utilized to replace the current costly and insufficiently reliable pooling system.

ONI was formally commended by PROCIB for Navy assistance in obtaining Cuban publications.

4. Germany

The political situation in Berlin has had a serious effect on the procurement of East German and Sino-Soviet bloc publications through East Berlin bookstores. Subscriptions placed in East Berlin bookstores are no longer delivered to outlets in West Berlin, and consequently it was necessary for the Regional Publications

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5. North Korea, North Vietnam and Outer Mongolia

Procurement from North Korea, North Vietnam and Outer Mongolia was stable, with 63 titles received from North Korea, 23 titles from North Vietnam, and 5 titles from Outer Mongolia as compared to last year's receipts: 61, 20 and 7 respectively. The procurement of monographic publications from these countries remained poor. The lack of one or several focal points where North Korean, North Vietnamese and Outer Mongolian monographic publications are available has made their acquisition difficult.

This difficulty may be due to a thinly spread pattern of distribution on the part of the respective publishers concerned. It is suspected, however, that announcements of publications are sometimes made for propaganda purposes but that the publications are never produced. Inability to procure such titles is not a true reflection of the effectiveness of the acquisitions program. The principal subscription points for serials are Moscow, Berlin, Prague and Paris, with varying degree of success. Insurance subscriptions are usually placed also with dealers in Hong Kong and Tokyo.

6. Africa

Generally inadequate receipts from the PPO program at some African posts posed a major problem throughout the period under review, especially with regard to the former French territories. Numerous instructions and orders have been sent to posts during the year, e.g., Leopoldville, Brazzaville, Dakar, Lome, Conakry, Abidjan, Yaounde, Lagos, Nairobi, Kampala, Tunis, and Casablanca. The greatest difficulty, however, has developed at Leopoldville. Of 24 titles requested, only one was being received and that has now ceased, probably as a result of the detention by the government of its editor-in-chief. The principal major problem at most posts is understaffing. The Embassy at Leopoldville, for example, works a seven-day week. Another factor at that post, and perhaps at others, is the incompetence of local help. Consideration is being given to pooling procurement

capabilities of both service attaches and publications procurement officers in Africa.

7. Free World

Publications receipts from the Free World remained constant. Key posts in this area, particularly London, Paris, Cairo, New Delhi, Tokyo, together with military commands around the world, continued to provide special support to the collection of Sino-Soviet bloc publications.

F. Graphics Procurement. Publications Procurement Officers procured over 3,600 photographs for the CIA Graphics Register from overseas commercial photo publishers. In addition, the Graphics Register selected and accessioned for USIB requirements approximately 11,000 photographs from open source publications acquired through the publications procurement program.

G. Publications Procurement Officer Activities. In recognition of her 17 years of outstanding service as the Regional Publications Procurement Officer in Berlin, Mrs. Zawadzki was officially commended by PROCIB on the occasion of her retirement, effective 31 May 1962. Mr. Paul A. Smith, FSO-4, was also formally commended by the Committee for his excellent work as Publications Procurement Officer at the American Embassy, Moscow from 25 April 1959 to 2 July 1961.

The Regional Publications Procurement Officer, Moscow surveyed publications procurement activities at Budapest, Bucharest and Sofia, and promoted publications procurement programs at these posts. In addition, the RPOs'

travel plans for calendar year 1962 included 14 trips within the USSR to 19 cities in order to survey the major provincial publishing centers. The Regional Publications Procurement Officer, Cairo completed five extensive regional survey trips to the Arabic Peninsula, Cyprus, Greece, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Syria, Sudan, Tunisia, and Turkey. All survey trips again resulted in substantial gains to the overall publications procurement program in this area.

The Publications Procurement Officer, Hong Kong surveyed the availability of Chicom publications in Bangkok, Phnom Penh and Rangoon.

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I. Use of Foreign Currencies Available under Public Law 480.

The Library of Congress appropriation bill for 1962 (Public Law 89-130) included $400,000 to finance programs in India, Pakistan and the United Arab Republic, pursuant to P. L. 480. Of this appropriation, $363,500 is available for the purchase of foreign currencies in these countries. Current publications are being acquired in these countries and distributed to 12 U.S. libraries and research centers. The PROCIB Chairman, as

well as other U.S. Government representatives, serves on an Advisory Committee to the Librarian of Congress on this program.

J. Proposal to Reorganize USIB Committee Structure. PROCIB commented on the draft of a DCI Coordination Staff study proposing reorganization of the USIB Committee structure in general and that PROCIB, among others, be dropped as a USIB committee. The majority of PROCIB members stated it was fairly immaterial whether PROCIB continued as a USIB committee, as long as it continued as a formalized group to serve as a forum for ideas and exchange of information on publications procurement. PROCIB was disestablished by USIB action of 18 July 1962 (cf. USIB Minutes of that date, item 8 b.(2)). The members of PROCIB will consider various means by which continued collaboration in this field can be accomplished.

III. MAJOR PROBLEMS

A. State Department Budget Problems. The Department of State financial contribution to the Publications Procurement Program cannot be established with preciseness. However, including salaries and maintenance costs of the full-time Procurement Officers, and alloting a fraction of the salary and maintenance of part-time Publications Procurement Officers at 180 posts at $45,000. a year, a figure which is believed to be low, the figure would be somewhere around $300,000. a year. Against this expenditure, the Department for its own Publications Procurement in the 1962 fiscal year had available less than $20,000. Thus, the Department is spending a considerable sum in response to the needs of other agencies and at the same time is not able to meet adequately its own needs.

The year 1962 saw severe budget cuts and retrenchments in the State Department, resulting in actions which impaired the effective pursuit of foreign publications procurement on behalf of the U.S. Government. The following are three of the more important actions:

1. The position of a Regional Publications Procurement Officer for Latin America was not filled in spite of strong PROCIB endorsement. The Department has suggested that CIA finance the post, but present thinking in CIA is that this would be a poor practice;

2. The limitation on travel funds has postponed the PROCIB-approved biennial Publications Procurement Officers Conference, which was to have taken place overseas;

3. Proposals to consolidate or eliminate certain RPO positions were strongly opposed by the State Department, as well as by all PROCIB members, and these proposals were dropped.

B. Procurement of Chinese Communist Publications. The embargo placed on the export of publications by the Chinese Communists in October 1959 remains in effect today. This export ban continues to deny important Chinese Mainland publications to U.S. intelligence as well as to research programs of U.S. academic institutions and professional societies. However, a slight thawing in the export ban is noted in the exchange field. A number of U.S. universities and some professional societies have received exchange proposals from the National Library of Peking and the Institute of Scientific and Technical Information of China, Academia Sinica. Publications offered on exchange by these institutions, with the exception of half a dozen scientific titles, are those

readily available in the open market. All sources available to PROCIB participating agencies, both overt and covert, have been mobilized to overcome this export ban.

C. Cuban Procurement. PROCIB participating agencies are exerting maximum pressure to secure as complete a coverage of Cuban publications as is possible despite restrictions currently in force. The assistance of certain friendly foreign governments is being utilized.

D. South East Asia. The military and political situation developing in South East Asia may well require the establishment of a Regional Publications Procurement Officer position to cover this important area.

E. Duplication of Effort in Field Procurement. PROCIB is concerned with the problem of duplication of effort in field procurement by official U.S. personnel. Though some duplication is necessary, every effort will be made to keep aware of the reasons for it and to eliminate unnecessary aspects.

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WALTER PFORZHEIMER
Acting Chairman
Committee on Procurement of
Foreign Publications